

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 DPW-01 ARA-06 OMB-01

EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /109 W

-----161932Z 056380 /46

R 160911Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7900

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0530

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: DIP PFOR PINR EAID VN CB YO UR FI LA KE

SUBJECT: TOUR D'HORIZON WITH FINNISH AMBASSADOR TO SRV AND LPDR

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MARCH 13, FINNISH
AMBASSADOR TO THE LPDR AND TO THE SRV (RESIDENT IN
HANOI) UNTO K. TANSKHANEN SAID THE FOLLOWING:

A) APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AGO HE LEARNED THAT
PRESIDENT TITO HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE LETTERS OF
CREDENCE FROM THE KAMPUCHEAN NOMINATED TO SERVE AS
KAMPUCHEAN AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA UNTIL HE HAD
RECEIVED ASSURANCE THAT "HIS FRIEND" FORMER PRINCE
SIHANOUK WAS ALIVE AND WELL. RECENTLY, THE YUGOSLAV
AMBASSADOR TO KAMPUCHEA WAS ALLOWED TO SEE SIHANOUK
FROM A DISTANCE BUT WAS NOT ALLOWED TO TALK TO HIM.

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B) THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN HANOI WAS AN ALTERNATE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE MEMBER AND THUS BROOKED "NO INTERFERENCE FROM
THE KGB" IN THE RUNNING OF HIS MISSION. THE SOVIET
AMBASSADOR, WHO SPEAKS ONLY RUSSIAN, ACCORDING TO
TANSKANEN, WAS THE SOVIET OFFICIAL WHO SUPERVISED THE
BULLDOZING OF THE OPEN AIR SHOW NEAR MOSCOW
SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

C) CUBAN INFLUENCE IN VIETNAM STEMMED FROM CLOSE RELATIONS DEVELOPED DURING THE WAR RATHER THAN AS AN OUTGROWTH OF ANY SPECIAL AID OR ASSISTANCE. CUBANS WERE WORKING WITH THE VIETNAMESE TO DEVELOP A SUGAR INDUSTRY IN THE SOUTH.

D) FINNISH AID TO VIETNAM CONSISTS OF A SHIP REPAIR FACILITY IN HAIPHONG.

2. TANSKANEN AND HIS WIFE SPEAK EXCELLENT ENGLISH. AMBASSADOR TANSKANEN DURING CONVERSATION REPEATEDLY DEFERRED TO HIS WIFE IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUESTIONS, SUBMITTING QUIETLY TO HER CORRECTIONS AND AMPLIFICATIONS. SHE APPEARED TO BE AS WELL INFORMED AS HE. WHEN EMBOFF REFERRED TO FINLAND AS BEING A PART OF "EAST EUROPE", BOTH REACTED SHARPLY, OBSERVING THAT FINLAND COULD BE THOUGHT OF AS PART OF EAST EUROPE ONLY IN A GEOGRAPHIC SENSE AND NOT IN A POLITICAL CONTEXT. TANSKANEN WAS IN VIENTIANE TO SAY GOODBYE TO LAO OFFICIALS; HE SAID THAT HE WILL BE POSTED TO NAIROBI "IN A FEW MONTHS".

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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